

Montandon Building (Fidelity Building)  
722 West Idaho Street  
Boise  
Ada County  
Idaho

HABS No. ID-19

HABS,  
ID,  
1-BOISE,  
4-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. ID-19

## MONTANDON BUILDING (Fidelity Building)

Location:

Northeast corner, Eighth and Idaho Streets (200,  
204, 208 North 8th Street-722 West Idaho Street),  
Boise, Ada County, Idaho.  
USGS Boise North Quadrangle,  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
11.564460.4829370.

Present Owner:

Boise Redevelopment Agency  
711 ½ Bannock Street  
P.O. Box 987  
Boise, Idaho

Present Occupant  
and Use:

Occupied by tenants of Boise Redevelopment Agency.  
Use in commercial.

Significance:

The Montandon Building is significant as a good local example of a commercial building rendered in sandstone. The stone was quarried locally at Tablerock. Erected on a corner of a key downtown intersection, the Montandon was constructed six years after the neighboring Union Block. These are often grouped together and referred to as the "Fidelity-Union Block". The similar material and design of both make them especially compatible architecturally. The Montandon is a significant and prominent part of the downtown streetscape.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

## A. Physical History

1. Date of construction: 1908.
2. Architects: John W. Smith.
3. Original and subsequent owners:

Chain of title is complete from ownership preceding erection of this structure to present date. Reference is Office of Ada County, County Clerk-Recorder, Records Department.

1899 Deed August 1899. Recorded August, 1899, Book 39 p. 184.  
West ½ Lot 2, Block 43.  
James D. Agnew (Francis A. Agnew, wife)  
to  
Jerry D. Jones

- 1899 Warranty Deed September 4, 1899. Recorded September 5, 1899, Book 39 p. 305. Lot 1, Block 43.  
Edward Shainwald & Moses Goodwin  
to  
A. F. Montandon
- 1928 Deed May 26, 1928. No. 131167, recorded July 2, 1928, Book 185, p. 77. Lot 1, Block 43.  
A. F. Montadon and Cynthia A. Montandon (h&w)  
to  
Otoe F. Montandon, Ronald W. Montandon and Orlando C. Montandon
- 1935 Warranty Deed October 24, 1935. No. 166006, recorded October 24, 1935, Book 293, p. 6. U.S.I.R. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 2, Block 43.  
Jerry D. Jones and Clara Ostner Jones (h&w)  
to  
Cynthia A. Montandon (widow)
- 1942 Warranty Deed April 1, 1942. No. 211740, recorded April 20, 1942, Book 254 p. 226. W  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 2 & other props. U.S.I.R.  
Cynthia A. Montandon, widow (A.F. Montandon died 12/3/31)  
to  
Boise Trust Company
- 1942 Warranty Deed April 1, 1942. No. 211741, recorded April 20, 1942, Book 254 p. 227. Lot 1, Block 43.  
Cynthia A. Montandon, Otoe F. and Rowena M. (h&w); Ronald W. and Harriett M. (h&w); Orlando C. and Madeleine M. (h&w)  
to  
Boise Trust Company
- 1948 Warranty Deed January 9, 1948. No. 271863, recorded January 31, 1948, Book 313 p. 384. Lot 1 and W  $\frac{1}{2}$  Lot 2, Block 43.  
Boise Trust Company  
to  
The Idaho First National Bank
- 1973 Deed December 6, 1973. No. B70450 recorded January 2, 1974.  
Idaho First National Bank, trustee for Montandons, Orlando C., Rose (widow of Ronald W.) and O.F.  
to  
Boise Redevelopment Agency

4. Alterations and additions:

In 1908, the extreme east bay of the three fronting on Idaho Street was originally a one-story brick structure that predated the rest of the Montandon Building. Although under different ownership, a second story was added with a sandstone veneer overlay to the facade. The similar appearance and matching height provides an unobtrusive transition from one bay to another and to the contiguous Union Block facade. The Montandon's street-level exterior has been altered to accommodate present-day retail purposes. There have been no other additions.

B. Sources of Information:

1. Old Views:

2 photocopies of historic views ca. 1916 and 1937. (Original prints from Idaho Historical Society 610 North Julia Davis Drive, Boise, Idaho). 83702

2. Bibliography:

a. Primary and unpublished sources:

Attenbery, Jennifer, Coordinating Architectural Historian, Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, 610 North Julia Davis Drive, Boise, Idaho. 83702. Interviewed 5/12/80

Hibbard, Don, Architectural Historian, Idaho State Historical Society. NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY-NOMINATION FORM.

b. Secondary and published sources:

Davis, Gage and Associates Boulder, Colorado, September, 1978. URBAN CONSERVATION AND ADAPTIVE RE-USE ANALYSIS, prepared for Boise Redevelopment Agency and on file in its offices.

c. Sources not yet investigated:

Microfilmed files of Idaho Daily Statesman and Evening Capital News available in Reference Library of Boise Public Library.

Prepared by Patricia Rowse  
Historic American Buildings Survey  
July 1980

from survey form compiled by  
C. Wayne Hunsucker AIA  
Boise, Idaho  
May, 1980

Part II ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION:

A. Exterior:

The Montandon is a two story plus basement Renaissance Revival style structure. It has three bays on Idaho Street and seven bays on Eighth Street. Each bay contains three double hung sash windows with smooth stone flat arches with drip stones. The extreme east bay originally was a one story brick bay. In 1908, a sandstone veneer and second story was added in a commercial style with two double hung sash windows with rusticated sandstone flat arches above them. The bay terminates with a rusticated sandstone cornice and parapet. The overall structure is distinguished by smooth stone Doric pilasters, and a higher cornice and parapet also of smooth stone. The structural framing on the first floor is stone bearing walls with steel "I" beams supporting a concrete slab. Second floor structural framing consists of a wood floor with joists. The roof framing is wood with flat trusses and the foundation walls. East party wall is also stone. The overall building shape is rectangular and the dimensions are 50' X 122'.

B. Interior:

First floor and basement are divided into three basic retail areas (all have been remodeled). The retail areas are open with some enclosed office spaces. The second floor has the original hallways and offices with very little remodeling. Second floor has the only original doors. The original pyramid-shaped skylights over hallways remain (see floor plan).

C. General Setting:

Located at northeast corner of Idaho and Eighth Streets.

Fidelity Building

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PART III SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

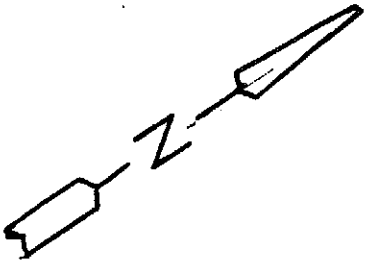
USGS Map with building identified.

Prepared by Patricia Rowse  
Historic American Buildings Survey  
July, 1980

from survey form compiled by  
C. Wayne Hunsucker AIA  
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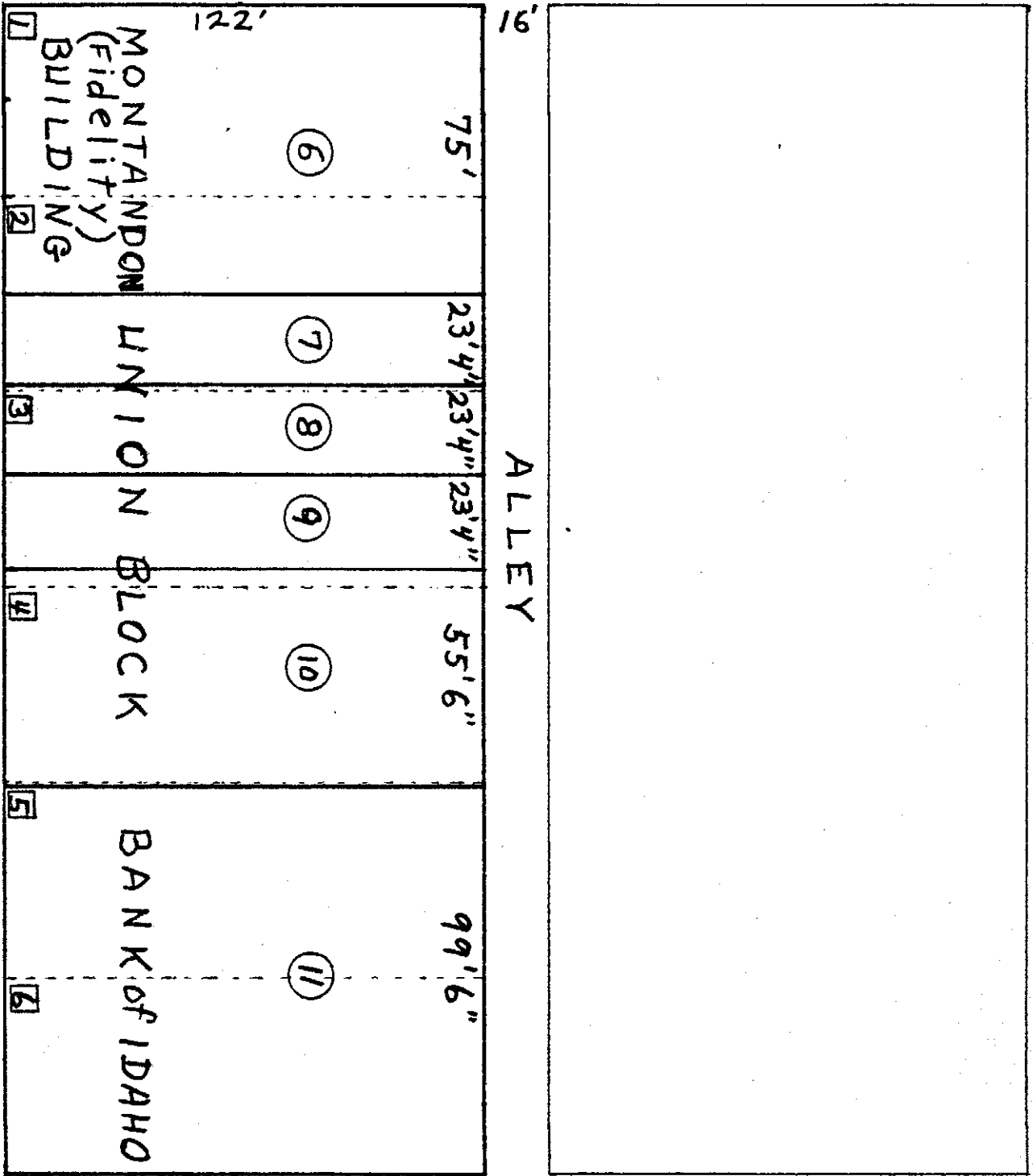
PART IV PROJECT INFORMATION:

This project was undertaken by the Boise Redevelopment Agency in compliance with Executive Order 11593 and a Memorandum of Agreement with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to mitigate the adverse effect of the regional retail/center in Boise Idaho. John A. Burns, AIA and Emily J. Harris were the HABS project coordinators. The written data was prepared in the HABS office by Patricia Rowse in July 1980 from the survey form compiled by C. Wayne Hunsucker, AIA, Boise Idaho. Photographs were taken by Duane Garrett in March 1980.



8th STREET

BANNOCK STREET



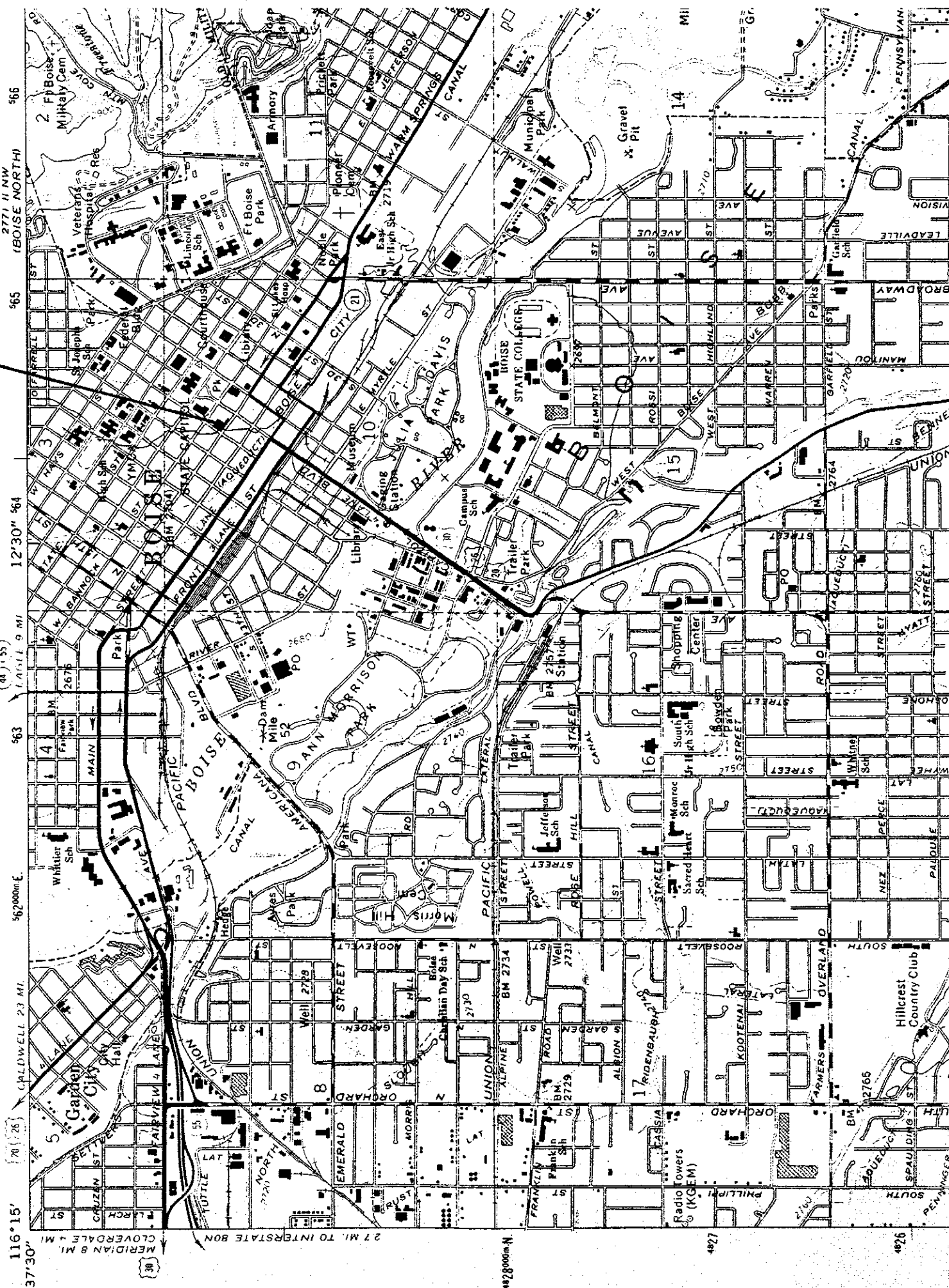
CAPITOL BLVD.

Scale 1"=40'  
SKETCH 5/13/80  
V.E.M.

IDAHO STREET  
BLOCK 43-B.C.O.T.

Lot lines  
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① - Lot Nos.  
⑥ - Parcel Nos.

11 / 5,64, / 48,29,370



2771 III NE  
(EAGLE)

3° 37' 30"

116° 15'

562000m E

563

12° 30' 564

565

2771 II NW  
(BOISE NORTH)

566

27 MI. TO INTERSTATE BON

4828000m N

4827

4826